

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 9–13 November 2009

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2009) — ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN 102131

Food Assistance and Education Incentive for Afghan and Iraqi Refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Number of beneficiaries	38,000
Duration of project	24 months (1 January 2009–31 December 2010)
WFP food tonnage	12,984 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	5,482,104
Total cost to WFP	8,995,481

*For information**



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.2/2009/10-C/2
30 September 2009
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

This document is printed in a limited number of copies. Executive Board documents are available on WFP's Website (<http://www.wfp.org/eb>).

NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted to the Executive Board for information.

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Director, Regional Bureau Cairo (Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe):	Mr D. Belgasmi	tel.: 066513-3561
---	----------------	-------------------

Senior Liaison Officer, Regional Bureau Cairo (Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe):	Ms F. Nabulsi	tel.: 066513-2385
---	---------------	-------------------

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).



ABSTRACT

1. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 102131 is a follow-up to PRRO 102130, which assisted Afghan and Iraqi refugees from 2003 to 2008. PRRO 102131 addresses the basic food needs of up to 38,000 Afghan and Iraqi refugees in 15 settlements through a relief component of general feeding and a recovery component of food for education.
2. The governments of Iran and Afghanistan have been promoting the repatriation of refugees. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there was spontaneous assisted repatriation of 859,260 Afghans and 20,431 Iraqis between 2002 and 2008; an estimated 1.5 million Afghans and 500,000 Iraqis returned to their homelands during this period.
3. But 950,000 Afghans and 50,000 Iraqi refugees still reside in Iran; they are a large financial burden for Iran's economy. Of these, 32,000 – 3 percent of the refugees in the country – live in 15 settlements. In 2008, only 3,500 Afghans were assisted in returning home, the lowest number in years.
4. A comprehensive joint assessment mission in June 2008 concluded that the refugees in settlements had few means of subsistence and were still in need of international humanitarian assistance. Restrictive labour laws limit their chances of finding unskilled paid employment.
5. The Government of Iran has limited the areas in which refugees can reside. Several Iraqi and Afghan refugee settlements are located outside the designated areas. An estimated 6,000 registered refugees who had previously not resided in a refugee settlement have relocated to one.
6. In view of this, PRRO 102131 covers the additional 6,000 refugees and the 32,000 deemed to be in continued need of assistance with a monthly food basket of wheat flour, rice, vegetable oil, pulses and sugar providing 1,700 kcal per person per day.
7. PRRO 102131 is implemented jointly with the Bureau for Alien and Foreign Immigrant Affairs of the Ministry of Interior in cooperation with UNHCR.
8. PRRO 102131 addresses Strategic Objective 1 through its relief component and ensures that the refugees' basic food needs are met. The girls' education recovery component, which addresses Strategic Objective 3, maintains retention and completion rates among refugee girls in primary school and among girls in secondary schools and ensures that women teachers participate in literacy classes, in line with WFP's gender policy.